



CCCLXXIX

His Majesties most Gracious and General P A R D O N.



JAMES the Second, by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting. It hath always been Our earnest Desire since Our Accession to the Crown, that all Our People should live at Ease, and in full Enjoyment of Peace and Happiness under Our Government; and nothing can be more agreeable unto Us, than that Offenders should be Reformed by Acts of Mercy extended towards them, rather than Punishment. Our open Enemies upon Repentance have found Our Favour. And although besides Our particular Pardons which have been Granted to many Persons, it be not long since We issued forth Our Royal Proclamation of General Pardon to all Our People; yet inasmuch as even they who live most peaceably, do often fall within the reach of some of Our Laws, and may be liable in their Persons or Estates (Should We be severe) to Prosecutions in Our Courts Ecclesiastical or Temporal; We therefore, out of Our special Grace and Tenderness to Our People (from whom We expect a suitable return of Duty and Obedience) do hereby Grant, Publish and Declare this Our Royal and Gracious Pardon; And We do hereby for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, Pardon, Acquit, Release and Discharge all and every Our Subjects (except Bodies Politick and Incorporate, and such other Persons who shall be herein or hereby excepted, of this Our Realm of England, Dominion of Wales, and the Town of Berwick upon Tweed, their Heirs, Executors and Administrators, them and every of them, against Us, Our Heirs and Successors, of and from all and all manner of Treasons, Felonies, Misdemeanours, of Treason or Felony, Treasonable or Seditious Words or Libels, Seditious and unlawful Meetings and Conventicles, all Offences whereby any Person may be charged with the Penalty and danger of Premunire, all Riots, Routs, Offences, Contempts, Trespasses and Misdemeanours, and all Judgments and Convictions for not coming to Church,

and of and from the Forfeitures and Penalties for the same, or any of them heretofore had, committed or done, except as herein or hereby after is excepted. And our Will and Pleasure is, that neither Our said Subjects nor any of them, nor the Heirs, Executors or Administrators of any of them, be or shall be Sued, Accused, or Disquieted in their Bodies, Goods or Chattels, Lands or Tenements, for any manner of Matter, Cause, Contempt, Misdemeanour, Forfeiture, Offence, or any other thing heretofore suffered, done or committed, or omitted, against Us, Our Crown, Dignity, Prerogative, Laws or Statutes, and not herein or hereby after excepted; And that this Our Grant of General Pardon, by the general Words, Causes and Sentences before rehearsed, shall be reputed, deemed, adjudged, expounded, allowed and taken in all manner of our Courts and elsewhere, most beneficially and liberally for Our said Subjects thereby Pardoned, in all things not hereafter excepted, as if their particular Persons and Crimes had herein been at large and fully express. Excepted, and always excepted out of this Our Pardon, all Treasons committed or done in the Parts beyond the Seas, or in any other Place out of this Our Realm; And also excepted all Offences in Forgery or false Counterfeiting the Great or Privy Seal, Sign Manual or Privy Signet, or any of Our Monies current within this Our Realm, or of unlawful Diminution of any of the said Monies by any ways or means whatsoever, and all Abetting, Aiding, Comforting or Procuring the said Offences or any of them, and also all voluntary Murders, Petty Treasons, Wilful Poisonings, and all Offences of being accessory to the same, or any of them before the Fact committed, and also all Piracies and Robberies committed upon the Sea, Robberies upon the Highways, Burglaries in Houses, and all Offences of being accessory to the said Offences or any of them; And also Excepted the detestable and abominable Vice of Buggery committed with Man or Beast, all Rape and Carnal Ravishments of Women, all Ravishments and wilful taking away or Harrying of any Maid, Widow or Damsel against her will, or without the Consent or Agreement of her Parents, or of such as then had her in Custody, and all Offences of Aiding, Comforting, Abetting, or Procuring the said Offences or any of them; And also excepted all Offences of Perjury, Subornation of Witnesses, Raising, Forgery or Counterfeiting any Deeds, Scripts, Inquisitions, Indentures of Appraisment, or other Writings, or Publishing the same, Forgery or Counterfeiting any Examinations or Testimonies of any Witnesses or Witnesses tending to bring any person or persons into danger of his Life, and all procuring and Counselling of any of the said Offences; And also except all Treasons, Offences, Misdemeanours and Contempts of and for which any Indictments, Actions, Bill, Plaint, or Information, or other Process at any time hath been Commenced, Sued or Depended, or is now Depending in any of Our Courts of Record, whereupon any Verdict, Judgment, Conviction, Outlawry or Decree is already given, Awarded, Entered or had, or Confession thereof Recorded, or whereupon any Fine is already set, and all Fines, Forfeitures and Penalties thereupon now due or accrued, or which shall or may be due, accrue or grow to Us, and all Executions for the same; And also Except all Informations, and all Proceedings concerning Highways and Bridges, or Repairing County Goals, and all Fines and Issues set and Returned thereupon since the Year One thousand six hundred seventy nine. And also Except all Offences in taking away, Embezzling, or Purloining any Goods, Monies, Chattels, Jewels, Armour, Munition, Stores, Naval Provisions, Shipping, Ordnance, or other Habilliments of War, belonging to Us or Our late Brother; And all Offences committed or done within the space of one year last, within Our Forest of Windsor; And also Except all Offences of Incest, Dilapidations, or Simony, and also Except all Contempts and Process thereupon Issued in or out of any Court of Equity; And also Except all Recognizances, Conditions and Covenants, and all Penalties, Titles, and Forfeitures of Offices, Conditions or Covenants forfeited, accrued or grown to Us or to Our late Brother by reason of the Breach, or not performing of any Office, Covenant or Condition whatsoever; Also Excepted all Concealments, Frauds, Corruptions, Misdemeanours and Offences, whereby We or Our late Brother have been deceived in the Collection, Payments or Answering of Our Revenues, or any part thereof, or any other Money due, or to be due to Us, or received for Us or him; And all Forfeitures, Penalties and Nomine Pene's thereupon arising; And all Indictments, Informations, or other Process, or Proceedings now depending, or to be depending thereupon.

Provided always that nothing in this Our Pardon contained shall extend or be construed to discharge any Fines, Sums of Money recovered by Judgment, Fines, pro licentia Concordandi, Post-fines, Issues or Amerciaments, lost, imposed, assessed, set or entered in any Court of Record whatsoever; And also Except all Persons who are as to any pains, penalties or disabilities whatsoever excepted out of the several Acts of Free and General Pardon, Indemnity and Oblivion made in the Reign of Our late Royal Brother, Excepted also all Persons who after Conviction or Attainder of or for any manner of Treason or Misdemeanours of Treasons have been Transported, and such Attainted of other notorious Crimes or Felonies as have been ordered or directed to be Transported into any of Our Foreign Plantations; Except also all Fugitives and Persons fled from Our Justice into Parts beyond the Seas, or out of this Realm, who shall not return and render themselves to Our Chief Justice, or some Justice of the Peace before the first day of January next ensuing; And also Excepted out of this Our Pardon the Persons hereafter particularly mentioned, Viz. Robert Parsons, Edward Matthews, Samuel Venner, Andrew Fletcher, Colonel John Rumsey, Major John Manley, Isaac Manley, Francis Charleton, Esq; John Wildman, Esq; Titus Oates, Robert Ferguson, Gilbert Burnet and Sir Robert Peyton; Provided that no Process of Outlawry at the Suit of any Person Plaintiff shall be by virtue of this Our Pardon stayed or avoided, unless the Defendant appear and put in Bail where by Law Bail is necessary, and take forth a Writ of Scire Facias against the Party at whose Suit he was Outlawed; and that this Our Pardon be not allowed to Discharge any Outlawry after Judgment till Satisfaction or Agreement be made to or with the Party at whose Suit the Outlawry was obtained: And Our Will and Pleasure is, That this present Pardon shall be of as good force and effect to Pardon and Discharge all and singular the Premises abovementioned, and intended to be Pardoned and Discharged, as if We should by Letters Patents under the Great Seal have granted particular Pardons to every one of Our Subjects: And for the better manifestation of Our Gracious Intentions and Desire herein, We do give leave that any of Our Subjects not herein excepted may sue and take out Our particular Pardon pursuant to the Tenor hereof, and for that purpose We shall direct Our Secretaries of State to present Warrants to Us for Our Signature, and give order to Our Attorney General or Solicitor to prepare Bills for passing Pardons for such as shall desire the same. In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents, Witness Our self at Westminster the Seven and Twentieth day of September, in the Fourth Year of Our Reign.

Clerke.

L O N D O N,

Printed by Charles Bill, Henry Hills, and Thomas Newcomb, Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty, 1688.